IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application

Albert John DZERMEJKO et al

Serial No.: To be assigned (National Phase of PCT/EP00/03505)

Filed: March 12, 2002

For: COOLING PANEL FOR A SHAFT FURNACE, SHAFT FURNACE PROVIDED WITH COOLING PANELS OF THIS NATURE, AND A PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SUCH A COOLING PANEL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

IN THE ABSTRACT

After the last page of claims, insert on a new page the Abstract shown on the attached

sheet (ATTACHMENT I)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. A copy of the claims marked up to show the amendments is attached (ATTACHMENT II).

1. Cooling panel for a shaft furnace, comprising at least one vertical duct which runs through the cooling panel, the ends of the at least one duct are connected to connection ends running transversely with respect to the plane of the cooling panel, wherein each duct and the connection ends are formed from a continuous tube made from a material selected from the group consisting of low-carbon steel, stainless steel and an alloy which predominantly comprises Cu and Ni with an Ni content of $\geq 28\%$ by weight, and the remainder of the cooling panel